

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method for the manufacturing of an electrode, comprising ~~the application of~~ applying a solution of a precursor for the pyrolytic formation of a tin-containing coating to a substrate of a valve metal, followed by the execution of thermal treatment, wherein the precursor solution comprises stannic hydroxychloride.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said stannic hydroxychloride is a non-stoichiometric compound ~~expressed by~~ of the formula $\text{Sn}(\text{OH})_{2+x}\text{Cl}_{2-x} \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, wherein the Cl:Sn molar ratio is ~~comprised~~ between 1 and 1.9.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said stannic hydroxychloride is a compound ~~expressed by~~ of the formula $\text{SnO}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n\text{R}_{2-x}\text{Cl}_x$, R being an organic substituent.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The method of Claim 3 wherein the Cl:Sn molar ratio is ~~comprised~~ between 1 and 1.9.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The method of claim 3 ~~or 4~~ wherein R is the acetic group ($\text{CH}_3\text{COO}-$).

Claim 6 (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 1 further comprising a precursor of at least one noble metal.

Claim 7 (original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said precursor of at least one noble metal is a chlorinated precursor of iridium or ruthenium.

Claim 8 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein said chlorinated precursor of iridium is H_2IrCl_6 .

Claim 9 (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims Claim 1 to 8~~ wherein a the valve metal is titanium or titanium alloy optionally with a ceramic pre-layer.

Claim 10 (original) The method of Claim 9 wherein the ceramic pre-layer comprises titanium dioxide.

Claim 11 (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims Claim 1 to 10~~ wherein said application of the solution is effected in multiple coats, each followed by a thermal treatment.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims Claim 1 to 11~~ wherein said thermal treatment is a pyrolysis at a temperature ~~comprised~~ between 350 and 800°C, optionally preceded by a drying at a temperature ~~comprised~~ between 80 and 200°C.

Claim 13 (currently amended) An anode provided with an electrocatalytic coating comprising tin, preferably tetravalent and in form of mixed oxide, prepared by the method of ~~any one of the previous claims Claim 1~~.

Claim 14 (original) The anode of Claim 13, prepared by the method of Claim 6, wherein said coating has electrocatalytic properties toward the chlorine evolution reaction and said at least one noble metal is ruthenium.

Claim 15 (currently amended) The anode of Claim 13, prepared by the method of Claim 6, wherein said coating has electrocatalytic properties toward the oxygen evolution reaction and said at least one noble metal is iridium.

Claim 16 (currently amended) A solution of a precursor for the pyrolytic formation of a tin-containing coating, comprising a stannic hydroxychloride species selected from a non-stoichiometric compound ~~expressed by~~ of the formula $\text{SnO}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n \text{R}_{2-x}\text{Cl}_x$, wherein R is an organic substituent.

Claim 17 (original) The solution of Claim 16 wherein the Cl:Sn molar ratio is comprised between 1 and 1.9.

Claim 18 (currently amended) The solution of Claim 16 ~~or 17~~ wherein R is the acetic group.

Claim 19 (currently amended) The solution of ~~any one of~~ Claim 16 ~~to 18~~ further comprising a precursor of at least one noble metal.

Claim 20 (currently amended) The solution of Claim 19 wherein said precursor of at least one noble metal is a ~~chlorinated~~ chlorinated pre-cursor of iridium or ruthenium.

Claim 21 (original) The solution of Claim 20 wherein said chlorinated precursor of iridium is H_2IrCl_6 .

Claim 22 (currently amended) A method for the manufacturing of a precursor solution for the pyrolytic formation of a tin-containing coating comprising the ~~addition of~~ adding hydrogen peroxide to a stannous chloride solution, optionally under temperature and redox potential control.

Claim 23 (original) The method of Claim 22 wherein the Cl:Sn ratio in the solution is decreased by subsequent reduction of metallic tin and further addition of hydrogen peroxide, optionally under temperature and redox potential control.

Claim 24 (currently amended) The method of Claim 22 ~~or 23~~ wherein said stannous chloride solution further contains a precursor of an organic substituent.

Claim 25(original) The method of Claim 24 wherein said precursor of an organic substituent is acetic acid.